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PROGRAM	Today	STATION	WRC TV NBC Network
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SUBJECT	William Schaap and Jack Maury		

PHIL DONAHUE: [Network technical difficulty] ...which talks about and tells you about the CIA, including, in recent issues, the actual publication of names of CIA agents. Not surprisingly this has raised the ire of members from -- of the intelligence community who feel that by so doing you are undermining not only the effectiveness, but more importantly, the safety of CIA agents working for this government in foreign countries. Now steps forward Congress with an amendment to the Intelligence Protection Act of 1947, which would say, as follows: to amend the National Security Act of 1947 to prohibit the unauthorized disclosure of information identifying certain United States intelligence officers, agents, informants and sources. Is this a violation of the First Amendment; will this cripple the press in examining the CIA?

Let's talk about it. With us is William Schaap, who happens to be the co-editor of the Covert Action Bulletin. And you think that you should be able to publish these names because...

WILLIAM SCHAAP: Primarily because we get the information that we publish from public sources. They're not -- it's not some secret or confidential or classified information. Essentially we're journalists. A lot of this information is available in the library and if anybody is at fault in terms of the -- the availability of the information, it's the government for not keeping secret who they are.

DONAHUE: You don't mind the government trying to keep the identities of their agents secret?